

STANWIX RURAL PARISH PLAN



Stanwix Rural Parish Plan

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Acknowledgements

Many people have been involved in the development of this Parish Plan, including all the residents and the Parish councillors who participated in the consultation process; without their valuable contributions there would be no Parish Plan - the Parish Council is very grateful for all their help and assistance. Thanks also to our City and County councillors, for their continuing support.

Parish Councillors, past and present, who have contributed to the plan are:

Serving Councillors

Mr S Alecock
Mr G D Cawley
Mr P Gascoigne
Mr A D Lightfoot
Mr C F Nicholson
Mr A Welsh

No Longer Serving

Mrs S V M Aglionby
Ms W Aldred
Mr W Clark
Mr M Clarke
Mr A J Gosling
Mrs L Kielty
Mrs M Naylor
Mr W M Wannop

Clerks to the Council, past and present, who have contributed to the plan are:

Mr C S Moth, present Clerk to the Council.
Mrs. A. Irving & Mrs B C Watson, former Clerks to the Council.

Thanks are also due to Mrs Claire Rankin (Community Support Officer) and other members of Carlisle City Council and Cumbria County Council who have provided much of the statistical information included in the Plan.

We are also very grateful to Cumbria County Council and the Countryside Agency for the financial help they have given.

Introduction

The Concept

In November 2000 the Government Rural White Paper, 'Our Countryside -The Future', launched the concept of the Parish Plan, the purpose of which is to:

"... set out a vision of what is important, how new development can best be fitted in, the design and quality standards it should meet, how to preserve valued local features and to map out the facilities which the community needs to safeguard for the future."

Plans should **"identify key facilities and services, set out the problems that need to be tackled and demonstrate how distinctive character and features can be preserved."**

The Parish Council held several public consultation meetings, backed up by a survey of households, in order to enable it to ascertain how you would like the Parish, and more specifically your own village or area, to develop and improve with regard to various features, e.g. facilities, recreation areas, transport etc.

Preparation of the Plan was, however, interrupted by the storm and flood of January 2005. This disaster led to extended power and communications failures across the entire parish, and had a devastating impact upon Crosby-on-Eden and Rickerby; where extensive flooding inundated many homes and properties.

The Parish Council immediately began working with residents to create an Emergency Plan to enable volunteers in the worst affected communities to respond quickly in assisting their families, friends, and neighbours in the event of a major incident.

The Community Emergency Plan is now in place and has been very well received by the emergency services and professional emergency planners. The plan is available from the Parish Clerk and can also be accessed online at:

<http://www.cumbriaresilience.info/>

Aims of the Plan

The Stanwix Rural Parish Plan is based on a co-operative exchange of ideas and suggestions between residents of the Parish and the Parish Council and explains the ways in which these ideas and suggestions may be achieved.

Who is it for?

The Plan will be useful to:

- All residents living within the Parish;
- Local community groups;
- The City and County Councils when they consider proposals relating to the Parish;
- Planners, architects and others involved in deciding on developments; and
- People & small businesses thinking of moving into the Parish

It is intended that the plan should be a useful description of the Parish and the aspirations of its residents.



Brunstock

Brief History Of Stanwix Rural Parish



Rickerby

The name Stanwix is very old and is thought to derive from the fact that, even before the Romans came, the houses here were stone built, in contrast to the “dub” or wattle and daub structures more usually found in the area.

The Parish’s Anglo-Saxon and Norse heritage is evidenced by the place names ending in the Saxon ‘-ton, or the Norse – ‘by; both indicating a farm or small settlement.

There are many important archaeological sites in the Parish. The most significant being Hadrian’s Wall and the Vallum which enter the Parish near Wall Head, in the east, and leave it near Tarraby, in the west.

The wall and its associated features comprise the Hadrian’s Wall World Heritage Site. Recently a long distance footpath, along the route of the wall, was constructed generating a noticeable increase in the number of walkers, and cyclists, who visit the Parish.

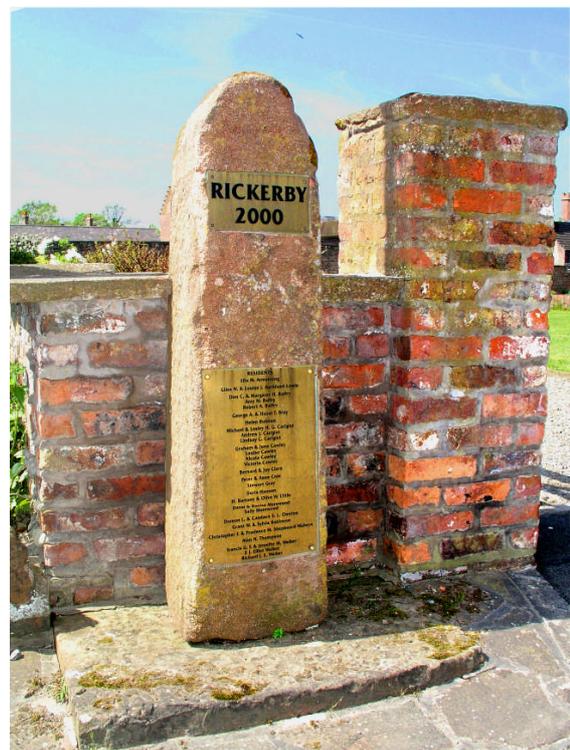
Did You Know?
King Edward 1st of England (Longshanks), stayed at Linstock Castle because it was thought safer than Carlisle Castle!

In the 13th Century King Edward 1st of England passed through the area several times, on his way to and from Scotland, staying at Linstock Castle whilst Parliaments were held in Carlisle

For several hundred years the “The Debatable Lands” of the border witnessed much vicious and lawless activity by the Border Reivers, who’s rustling, pillaging and murdering became legendary. For much of that time there was little, if any, law imposed in the rural areas to the north of Carlisle.

Bonnie Prince Charlie stopped here on his way south during his 1745 attempt to regain the British throne for the Stuarts.

Stanwix Rural Parish is comprised of several distinct communities, varying from villages to hamlets and small settlements. The older buildings within these communities are mainly of red sandstone or red brick construction and are often of typical North Cumbrian vernacular design. Many of the older buildings may be found to contain substantial quantities of ‘recycled’ Roman Wall.



The Millennium Pillar - Rickerby

Description

Topography & Geography

The Parish, like the rest of north Cumbria, is built upon Carboniferous sandstone and limestone, overlain by heavy boulder clay, topped by areas of lighter soils over glacial sand and gravel. The majority of agricultural land in the Parish is classed by DEFRA as being Grade 3, i.e. of good/moderate quality. Agriculture is a mix of arable and dairy farming.

The southern part of the Parish, between the A689 and the River Eden, constitutes part of the Eden's flood plain. Shaped by the river it is composed of alluvial soils and sands. To the north the land is a low plateau, which rises to 20 – 30 metres above sea level. The River Eden is a major Site of Special Scientific Interest and a Special Area of Conservation, and is of national importance.

Another important Site of Special Scientific Interest, in the Parish near Wall Head, is White Moss which holds one of the most important examples of lowland raised mire in north and east Cumbria; as well as rich and valuable areas of now scarce forms of lowland heath and wet meadow grassland. These three habitats are threatened and much reduced nationally and White Moss is a very valuable part of the remaining resource.

The M6 Motorway enters the Parish, from the south, as it crosses the River Eden near Linstock and exits, to the north, at Junction 44 – Greymoor Hill. The A689 shadows the line of the 'Stanegate' Roman Road, to its south, as it bisects the Parish from east to west.

The Parish's larger settlements are Houghton; Low Crosby, Linstock. Of a more intermediate size are Brunstock and Rickerby; while Tarraby The Knells, Park Broom and Walby; form hamlets. In addition; areas of more sporadic development, such as Crosby Moor and

Townhead, though more dispersed in character have their own identities.

Adjacent to one another, alongside the B6264 Brampton Old Road, are the neighbouring communities of Hadrian's Gardens and Hadrian's Park; formerly part of the long gone Hadrian's Camp, an Army Apprentices College.

Hadrian's Gardens, the old married quarters, has developed the character of a hamlet, having its own senses of identity and community. Hadrian's Park opened a quarter of a century ago, as a Gypsy/Traveller site, also retains its own cultural identity, whilst integrating within the wider community.

The Vallum ward of the Parish is comprised of the Whiteclosegate/Millcroft area and Pennington Drive.

Askerton Close, Drumburgh Avenue and Wolsty Close form part of the Houghton Ward but, like Pennington Drive, they are somewhat isolated from the rest of the Parish being located to the east of the A7, Scotland Road, and a little to the north of Morrison's Supermarket.



Linstock WI Hall

Did You Know?

Tarraby is the oldest rural conservation area in Carlisle District. It was designated on 16 December 1969

Demography

In the 2001 census, the Parish population was recorded as being 3,043 which is a 17.2% increase on the 1991 population of 2,595.

To a large extent, this marked increase has occurred as a result of new housing developments in the intervening decade. Following extensive residential development in Rickerby and Linstock (which have more than doubled in size), the population of the Parish will now be noticeably greater than in 2001.

The working population of the Parish can be broadly divided into 3 main groups, which are:

- 1) Those involved in agriculture;
- 2) Those who travel into Carlisle to work; and
- 3) The increasing number who work from home or locally, either for themselves or as employees.

Some numbers of residents will, of course, be exceptions to this general observation.

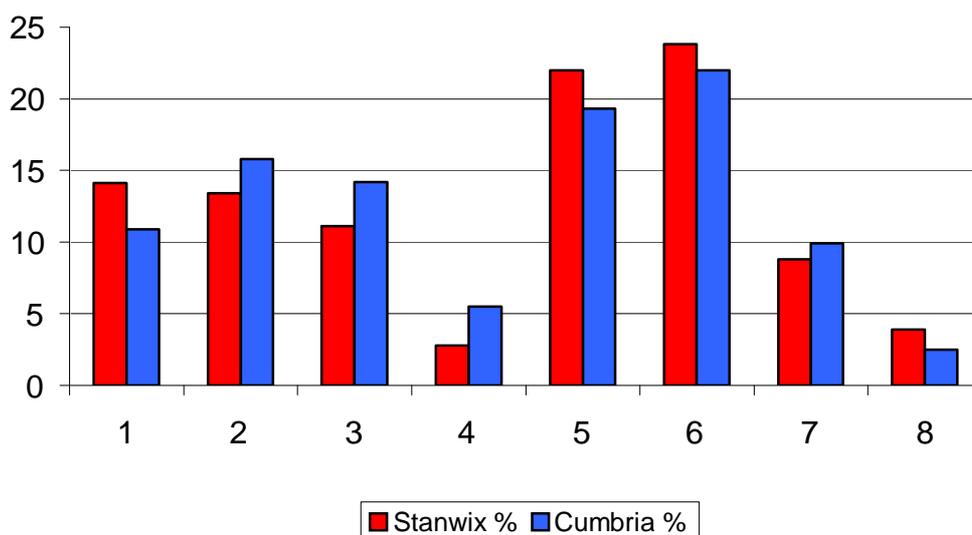
The 2001 census records 0.9% of the potential working population were claiming unemployment benefit.

POPULATION OF STANWIX RURAL PARISH AS OF APRIL 2001

Source: National Statistics 2001 Census

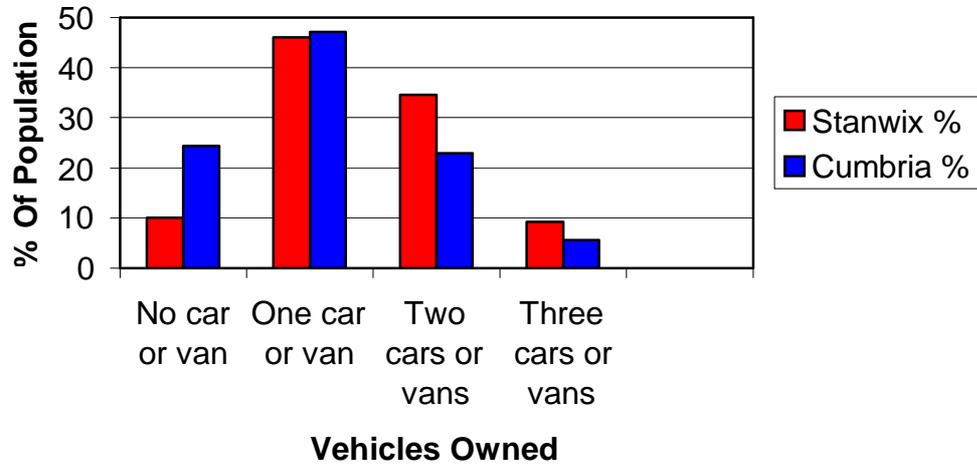
Total Households	1,259
Total Female	1,578
Total Male	1,465
Total Persons	3,043

Household Composition

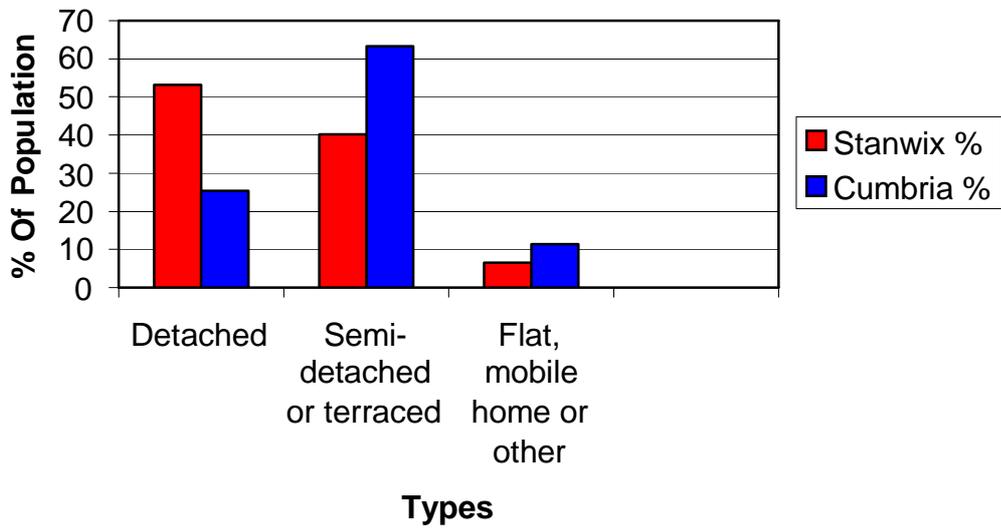


1	Pensioner Households	5	Couples No Children
2	Lone Pensioners	6	Couples + Dependant Children
3	Lone Non-Pensioner	7	Couples + Non-Dependant Children
4	Lone Parent + Dependant Children	8	Other Households

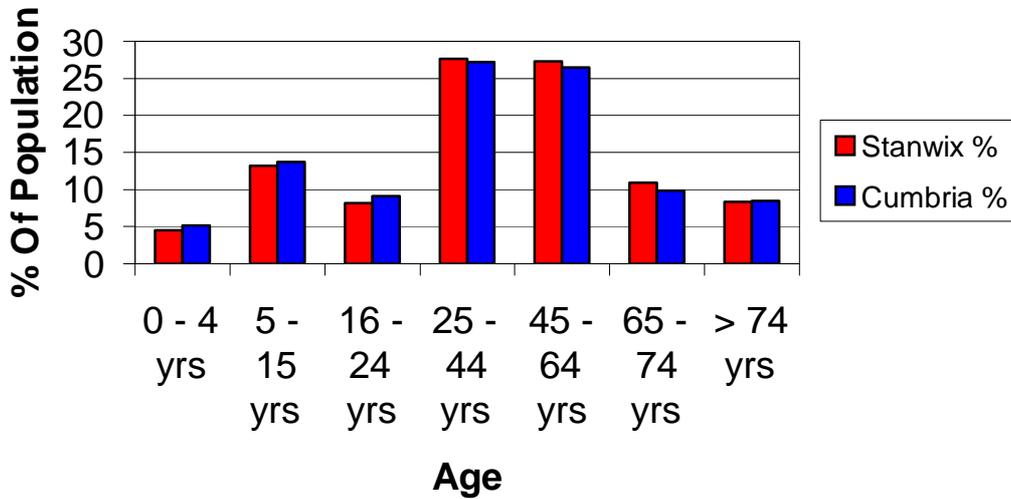
Vehicle Ownership



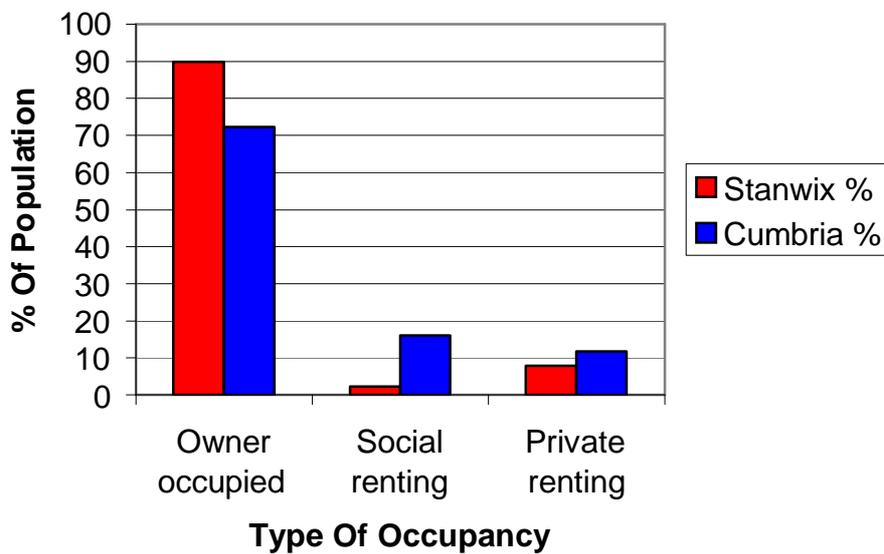
Types of Housing



Age Spread Of Population



Property Owned/Rented



Did You Know?

In 1831 the total population of Houghton was 384. At the time of the 2001 census the total population of Houghton had reached 1197.

Consultation Process

A survey questionnaire was delivered to 1 in 10 of all the homes and businesses in the Parish; a much larger ratio than is customarily sampled - even in national opinion polls. A very high proportion of the questionnaires were returned. This survey provided a valuable insight into general areas of public concern in respect of life in the Parish.

Following this, a series of public consultation meetings were then held in the Village Halls in Crosby on Eden and Houghton, and in the Women's Institute Hall in Linstock. These venues were chosen because these 3 villages are the largest communities in the Parish and are the only ones with suitable halls for holding such meetings.

The meetings were well advertised and open to all residents, who were invited to put forward

ideas that would benefit the Parish or their own community.

Meetings were deliberately informal, those attending sitting in small groups of friends and neighbours.

After an introduction, that explained the concept and nature of Parish Plans, there followed a general discussion and exchange of ideas. Topics for further discussion were noted down and collated into subject groups e.g. highways/road safety, environmental matters, public transport, planning, etc. The groups then each 'brain stormed' a different topic.

Summaries of the consultation meetings follow.

Thanks are due to all those who participated in, or assisted, the consultation process.



St John the Evangelist's Church and Crosby-on-Eden School, Crosby-on-Eden.
Photo courtesy of www.visitcumbria.com

Houghton Consultation

Issues discussed by the topic groups are summarised below. For clarity they have been re-grouped under fewer headings than were used at the meeting.

Planning

No more building on the green area behind Orchard Lane.

An application for the new vicarage (next to the church) had been refused as being outside the village – could the site be included within the village boundary?

Must not allow access to Garden Centre from village.

Environment

Hedgerows need improved maintenance.

Uneven pavements.

Localized flooding due to blocked or absent drains.

Tidying after grass cutting.

Improve Village Green with trees and shrubs.

Street cleaning.

Social Issues

Youth facilities.

More “request” bus stops.

Subsidised taxi service.

Poor bus service.

Cycle track from Houghton to Carlisle.

Sports field for football etc.

Evening/FE classes in Village Hall.

Play area for children.

Parking/Traffic Congestion

Re-design traffic calmed area.

No parking outside shop entrance.

Consider use of village hall car park.

School staff and parent parking obstructs Jackson Road.

Encourage parents and children to walk to and from school.

Consider ‘drop of point’ in school grounds.

Examine viability of ‘yellow’ School Bus to cut peak time congestion.

PTA to consider a “traffic plan”.

Deter “rat runners” through village.



Church Lane, Houghton

Highway Safety

Left filter lane onto A 689 from village.

Stop parking on cycle-way.

Consider traffic lights at St John’s Bridge.

Consider roundabout at St John’s Bridge / Scaleby Road junction.

Consider accident ‘Black Spot’ signs.

Litter problems from parked vehicles.

Consider speed cameras & more double white lining on A689.

Consider speed limit or traffic calming on Scaleby Road.

Renew road markings.

Improve street lighting.

40 mph limit on Brampton Old Road.

More enforcement of speed restrictions on whole of Houghton.

Did You Know?

Sir John Dalston sold Tarraby to its tenants, about the year 1764.

Crosby-on-Eden Consultation

NOTE: *In respect of Crosby-on-Eden, it must be remembered that the following 'Parish Plan information' was gathered and collated prior to the extensive flooding of the village in the storms of January 2005. In February of that year, the Parish Council held public meetings in the village where these events were discussed in detail with representatives of the various agencies involved. These matters are specifically addressed in the Community Emergency Plan.*

Issues discussed by the topic groups are summarised below. For clarity they have been re-grouped under fewer headings than were used at the meeting.

Children

There are 60+ children in the village therefore improved facilities required.
Enhanced maintenance schedule for Crosby playing field and its perimeter; possible fence beside the stream.
Mother and toddler group unable to maintain upkeep and insurance of play equipment.
Enhanced seating, lighting and litter bins.

Social Issues

Difficulties when residents seek planning permission.
Investigate possible viability of village shop.
Evening/FE classes in the hall (wine &/or film club?).
Social groups for visits and excursions e.g. Evergreens?
Youth club.
Village events, to develop more community spirit.

Environment

Dog fouling.
No more new housing without full renewal of main services infrastructure.
More litter bins needed.
Recycling scheme should be started.
Sewage pumping station failures.
Walby/Wallhead Road needs resurfacing - close to a World Heritage Site.
3 houses called "Fell View" but no street names – problems for postmen, emergency services etc.
HGV noise from A689 at night.
Fly tipping on A 689 near Linstock roundabout.

Policing and Crime

Need regular and visible visits by police.
Rustling from Crosby Moor area.
Residents keep an eye on neighbours property when they are away.
Good response when Crosby Church was broken into.
Encourage Home /Neighbourhood/Farm Watch schemes.

Highways

Enhanced verge maintenance.
Improved street lighting in Green Lane.
Improve road through village at Stanegate – 'getting narrower'.
Both village road / A689 junctions need improving.
Road drainage very bad in The Garth and Green Lane.

Road Safety

Road gritting through village.
Flashing 30mph signs at both ends of the village required + red tarmac & roundels.
Move western 30 mph sign beyond Beck Farm.
40 mph limit on Newby Road and 50 mph on A689 - Crosby Moor/Crosby bypass.
'Stabling lanes' from bypass, with lighting, into Crosby.
Residents on A689 and in Park Broom have very dangerous turnings on/off A689.
Dangerous Newby East/Crosby junction – signs badly positioned.
Flashing signs on A 689 to calm traffic.
Cycle path to be extended from village to existing path.

Linstock and Rickerby Consultation

NOTE: *In respect of Rickerby it must be remembered that the following 'Parish Plan information' was gathered and collated prior to the extensive flooding of the village in the storms of January 2005. In February of that year, the Parish Council held public meetings in Linstock where these events were discussed in detail with representatives of the various agencies involved. These matters are specifically addressed in the Community Emergency Plan.*

Issues discussed by the topic groups are summarised below. For clarity they have been re-grouped under fewer headings than were used at the meeting.

Planning,

Mains sewers vital prior to any further residential development.
Minimal future housing development.
Only affordable housing.
Ascertain if any sites are suitable for low cost housing.
No gas supply.
Electricity supply prone to interruption.

Road Safety

Consider 30 mph limit from Linstock roundabout to Near Boot.
'Give way' at Rickerby Gardens is dangerous.
Turn into and out of Park Broom dangerous.
Consider traffic calming in Linstock.
Reduce speeding through Linstock.
Cycle path - dangerous access and exit at "The Beeches" end.
Hadrian's Wall path creates large number of pedestrians with no off road walking for most of the way.
Rat run into Carlisle creates dangers and problems.
Off road parking for football fields at Rickerby.

Highways

Back Road patched but not satisfactory- made worse by bad drainage.
Rickerby to Linstock road pot holed and badly drained.
Hedges only ever tidied just before Cumberland Show.
Cycle track from Rickerby Park to The Beeches - better maintenance and sweeping after hedge cutting to stop punctures.
Footpath through Rickerby Park needed.
Extend cycle path to A689 at Linstock.

Environment

Mains sewers are urgently required.
Dogs should be kept off playing field on Linstock green - signs needed.
Litter from Cumbrian run is always bad problem.
Maintenance of village greens.
Motorway noise - possible screen planting.
Fly tipping.
Poor drainage from 'Nursery area'.
Bus shelters for school children.
'Poop scoop' boxes in Rickerby Park.
Lack of broadband availability.
Lobby for mains gas supply.
Electricity supply prone to repeated failures.
Play area for under 10s.



Linstock Post Box

Key Services

Stanwix Rural Parish suffers an inadequate provision of public transport services; bus services are infrequent and operate a heavily reduced schedule outside normal working hours and at weekends. Taxis are prohibitively expensive for those of limited financial means.

Therefore, those lacking private means of transport, especially those in vulnerable social groups, are effectively denied easy access to many of the key services and activities (shown

below), which are not available within the Parish.

The Countryside Agency Accessibility Audit considered the provision of key services and activities within the Parish; placing them into two categories – Essential and Desirable, as indicators of community wellbeing. These are shown below

Key Services within the Parish are shown in italics.

Essential	Desirable
<i>Primary school</i>	<i>Places to eat out</i>
Doctor's surgery	Library
<i>Essential groceries and food shop</i>	Youth services
Secondary school	Social club
College for adult & further education	Leisure facilities (indoor and outdoor)
Job centre services	<i>Nursery facilities</i>
Key employment centre	<i>Places of worship</i>
Prescription services	<i>Other retail outlets</i>
Dentist	
Optician	
Emergency services	
Hospital	
Other food shopping or supermarket	
<i>Cash dispenser/Banking facility</i>	
Welfare services	
<i>Post Office & postal services</i>	

Did You Know?

Crosby-on-Eden School cost £350 to build in 1844 and nearly 100 children then attended, but they had to pay for the privilege.

Parish Plan Actions

The various issues groupings arising from the consultation process were used as the starting point in creating the Action Plan. These were then collated and re-compiled into fewer, broader, categories to avoid duplication and/or confusion.

For example, 'Improved Litter Picking' appeared under the headings of 'Highways', 'Environment' and also 'Amenity'. Although valid under any of the three headings 'Litter Picking' is now consolidated in the Action Plan

as an environmental issue, as this is where an enhanced provision would have the greatest beneficial impact.

In prioritising actions, under the Action Plan, 'most benefit to most parish residents' has been the guiding principle. For example, 'Highway Safety' and 'Traffic Management' are given higher priority than some environmental issues and amenity lighting has a higher priority than facilities for those walking Hadrian's Wall.



Drawdykes Castle

Photo courtesy of www.visitcumbria.com

ACTION PLAN

<u>Issue</u>	<u>Objective</u>	<u>Action</u>	<u>Priority</u>	<u>Partnerships</u>	<u>Funding</u>
Highway Safety	Improve highway safety.	<p>A689: Improve visibility splays at junctions & illuminate. Provide stabling lanes at all junctions. Consider reduced speed limits on specific sections. Repair and protect cycle way – St John's Bridge to J44. Undertake further safety audit</p>	High	<p>Highways Agency, City Council (& as LPA) County Council. Environment Agency. Utility Companies. Capita-Symonds. Police.</p>	Negligible cost implications for Parish Council.
		<p>Other Highways: Lay 'red tarmac' & speed limit roundels & install interactive speed signs at approaches to villages. Reduce speed limits for The Knells. 30 MPH speed limit from Linstock Road end to the art college. Undertake safety audit at Rickerby Gardens junction. Modify exit of Rickerby cycle way & extend to Linstock as cycle/footway. Improve & extend local cycle way network. & ensure removal of hedge clippings. Consider provision of off road parking at Rickerby football pitch.</p>	High	<p>County Council. Capita-Symonds. City Council (& as LPA). Environment Agency. & Utility Companies. Police.</p>	Majority from partners contribution from Parish Council.
Traffic Management	Reduce traffic congestion in Houghton.	<p>Re-design or modify traffic-calmed area in Houghton, start by implementing safety audit recommendations.</p>	High	<p>County Council. City Council (& as LPA). Capita-Symonds. Police.</p>	Majority from partners Contribution from Parish Council.
		<p>Education & enforcement in respect of illegal parking in front of shop and school</p>	High	<p>As above + staff, PTA & governors of school & nursery. Owners of Houghton shop.</p>	As above.

<u>Issue</u>	<u>Objective</u>	<u>Action</u>	<u>Priority</u>	<u>Partnerships</u>	<u>Funding</u>
Planning	Avoid further overloading of inadequate mains services.	Develop a Design Statement Strategy	High	City Council (as LPA) County Council. Planning.Aid. Environment Agency. Utility Companies. As above + developers.	Some cost implications for Parish Council Negligible cost implications for Parish Council. Council. As above.
	Provision of low cost housing				
	Limit further housing development to identified infill sites only				
Environment	Improve environmental quality.	Increase frequency of clearing gully drains.	High	City Council (& as LPA). County Council. Capita-Symonds. Environment Agency. Utility Companies. Parish Council Contractors.	Majority from partners contribution from Parish Council.
		Ensure that hedges & verges are maintained.	Medium		
		Increase frequency of 'litter picking'.	Medium		
		Enhanced signing & enforcement in respect of dog fouling, especially on greens & playing fields.	High		
		Consider screen planting to reduce M6 noise in Linstock.	Medium		
		Improve re-cycling opportunities.	Low		
Utilities	Provision of mains services throughout the Parish.	Lobby for extension of mains services, to all areas of the Parish.	High	Utility Companies. Bus Operators. Local Education Authority. Capita-Symonds. City Council (& as LPA). County Council. Environment Agency. Hadrian's Wall Heritage Ltd. English Heritage.	Majority from partners contribution from Parish Council.
Public Transport	Improve bus services	Lobby for enhanced service provision.	Medium		
Amenities	Extend provision of amenity lighting.	When able, provide lighting as requested by public.	Medium		
Tourism	Secure provision of facilities ancillary to Hadrian's Wall Walk	Liaise with relevant agencies to encourage provision of facilities.	Low		
Education	Seek provision of Further Education classes in village halls	Liaise with village hall management committees and LEA to conduct trials.	Low		

<u>Issue</u>	<u>Objective</u>	<u>Action</u>	<u>Priority</u>	<u>Partnerships</u>	<u>Funding</u>
Children & Young People	Provide & improve safe play/leisure facilities for children and young people	Service & maintain existing play equipment at Crosby-on Eden Village Hall.	High	Local schools & LEA. Existing groups (e.g. scouts/guides). Capita-Symonds. City Council (& as LPA). County Council. Police. Parish Council Contractors.	Some from partners but significant cost implications for Parish Council
		Provide safe play area/equipment for children in Linstock.	High		
		Encourage & support creation of youth clubs in villages.	Medium		
		Consider provision of Youth shelters	Medium		
		Continue maintenance of playing fields & provide seating at Crosby-on-Eden	Medium		
Crime & Policing	Increase level of community policing & neighbourhood watch	Lobby for enhancement of community policing in rural areas & for increased foot patrols	High	Police.	Some cost implications for Parish Council.
		Encourage & support Neighbourhood/Farm Watch schemes.	Medium		
		Support continuation of mobile police station	Medium		
Emergency Planning	Extend Community Emergency Plan to all settlements in parish	Encourage & support the formation of Community Emergency Groups	High/ Medium	Members of the community Cumbria County Council Cumbria Fire & Rescue Service Cumbria Constabulary Parish Councils Assoc. Environment Agency	Some cost implications for Parish Council